

**LOUISIANA TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1999**

Members Present: J. Renea Austin, Bill Beyer, Tom Hagan and Butch Speer

Chairperson Renea Austin called the meeting to order. Marian Patterson called roll. Quorum was established. Ms. Austin called for a motion to approve the November 10th and March 24th minutes. The motion was made, seconded, and approved without objection.

Ms. Austin stated that the purpose of the meeting was for four agencies to update the Council on the status of their previously funded projects. Agencies giving presentations were Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, Military Department (2 presentations), University of New Orleans, and LSU Medical Center-New Orleans. Each agency would be allowed 15 minutes for their presentation, followed by questions from the council members.

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Project: Automated Licensing System

Jim Patton, Undersecretary, introduced himself.

Louisiana will be only the 10th state to implement an Automated Licensing System, and will be ahead of most other southern states. WLF has submitted the September progress report to the Technology Innovation Fund, and since doing so the system has become operational. The system went online September 2nd, and in just 27 days, 25 sites have gone up and almost 1,000 licenses have been sold. There are 809 sites registered to participate, and WLF has yet to advertise the system. In November, the system will be rolled out statewide with over 800 installations. Licenses will be written at all locations by mid-December. Sometime in the spring, WLF will pick up all paper licenses and require users to use the new automated system. Mr. Patton then gave the council a demonstration of how the automated licensing system works.

Ms. Austin asked what kind of sites would have the machines?

Mr. Patton replied that it would be a mixture of businesses, from 'mom & pop' stores to Academy Sports and possibly Wal-Mart.

Mr. Patton indicated that an average of 2 new vendors are registering for the system per day. WLF will need a buffer stock of machines to replace those that become inoperable. WLF feels that 1500 is an adequate number of machines to support the system for 3 years.

Mr. Patton added that in their report, WLF projected a surplus of \$39,660. The sum was originally to be used to purchase PCs and printers, but WLF does not need the equipment. Mr. Patton requested that the council allow WLF to purchase a new database server, since the one that they use now is a DEC Alpha, which won't support an upgrade to NT2000. Mr. Patton suggested that a new server would cost about \$14,000, and the rest of the surplus would be reverted back to the Council.

Mr. Hagan indicated that he is facing the same situation (having a DEC Alpha) and had a suggestion: for WLF to work with Compaq directly to resolve the issues of this server. Mr. Hagan then asked if the server would be used for another purpose? Mr. Patton replied that it would only be used for the system in question.

A motion is made to allow WLF to spend what money they need to in order to replace the server, and the remaining surplus will be reverted to the Council. The motion was seconded. Without objection or further questions, the motion carried.

Ms. Austin opened the floor to questions.

Ms. Austin asked if WLF has issued Governor Foster his license through the new system?

Mr. Patton replied that since the Governor is over 60 years old, he does not need to buy one.

That concluded Mr. Patton's presentation.

Ms. Austin said that the Council had discussed that when proposals are first received, there are a lot of questions from the council members that relate to budget issues. Ms. Austin recognized the presence of Steven Winham, Ernest LeBlanc, and Dee'Layne Cothorn of the Office of Planning and Budget. They were present to offer guidance on budget issues.

Department of the Military

Projects: Distance Learning Satellite Communications

Colonel Glenn Appe introduced himself, Col. John Landry, and Mr. Matt Farlow (OEP). Col. Appe extended Major General Landreneau's appreciation for the support of the Technology Innovation Fund.

Col. Glenn Appe, Project Officer for the Distance Learning Implementation Plan, said that four sites are up and operational for the project. He demonstrated what the video environment looked like. There are 7 client suites, which connect upstream to the National Guard Bureau via ATM backbone and to the state ATM backbone. Several shared video clients have been established. A data collection server has been established, as well as an Audio Bridge. These three media avenues are all used together to provide distance learning, but if 1 fails, can still transmit data by the other two methods.

The Military Department is seeking additional resources from the National Guard to enhance the current sites. They are leveraging distance learning resources in with the rest of the other resources that were being delivered to the National Guard as a Wide Area Network. This was the plan at the last Council meeting, and now this network is operational statewide. There are 67 premises located throughout the state, which are all interconnected.

The Military Department has made progress to upgrade their voice infrastructure. They have deployed four large sites, 14 or 15 medium sites, and upgraded 48 small sites. They are mostly operational, but there are a limited number of quality of service issues dealing with available

bandwidth. They had planned for 15 video sites, have installed 9 with state grant for phase 1 and 4 federal sites. Most of these sites are in Shreveport.

Col. Appe opened the floor for questions.

Ms. Austin asked how the Military Department publicized site availability for the Shared Customer list?

Col. Appe replied that it was not fully marketed, but had given out test brochures to CPTP and the Board of Regents. A full marketing effort will begin in the spring.

Ms. Austin asked if the Military Department was charging fees to use the service?

State agencies are charged \$50/hr and Federal Agencies \$100/hr. The revenues generated will be used to cover the operating expenses of the future, with the plan that the sites will be self-sufficient after two years of operation.

Ms. Austin asked about the \$301,000 indicated in progress report?

With the 2-year grant, 50% of it was executed in the first year. Continuing to make purchases. Project will come in on target after end of 2nd year.

Ms. Austin asked how the usage would be monitored once the project 100% operational?

Can track by the billing, per hour, per site. Looking into automated scheduling tools.

With no more questions, Col. Appe introduced Matt Farlow, OEP, to discuss the Satellite Communications Project.

Mr. Farlow indicated that Col. Brown was not able to attend the meeting.

The Satellite Communications project being implemented will provide a satellite communications system for every parish. Before this project was undertaken, emergency communications was evaluated and it was determined that the main forms used were telephones and the statewide 800mhz system. Both of these are subject to severe weather and are limited to transmitting voice data only.

The Council's funding of the project has allowed OEP to purchase 1 system for every parish, plus one for the Adjutant General's car, plus one for Col. Brown's car, plus 2 units for stations at OEP. The installation process continues, but those units that are installed are working very well after some initial installation issues (technical, administrative). Mr. Farlow pointed out that these systems enable conference calling and permit data transfer as well as voice transfer.

Mr. Farlow opened the floor for questions.

Ms. Austin asked why no action had been taken on some of the parishes in the state?

Mr. Farlow indicated that the phones have been purchased, but the installation process just hasn't started in some areas. He expects all systems to be installed by the end of October. Mr. Farlow added that FEMA, the Coast Guard, and Entergy all have these

systems, which expands the usefulness of the project. State Police and DEQ are looking into the systems as well.

Ms. Austin added that the state will be relying heavily on these systems if, during the transition into the year 2000, there are interruptions in ordinary phone service.

Mr. Hagan asked if these systems can move video stills?

Mr. Farlow indicated that they can (Civil Air Patrol is testing this process) but they cannot move moving pictures.

With no further questions, Mr. Farlow thanked the Council and ended his presentation.

The University of New Orleans

**Project: The Laboratory for IT and Spatial Analysis as a Tool for Enhancing
Louisiana's Share of Census-Derived Federal Revenues**

Mr. John Wildgen introduced himself.

Mr. Wildgen showed snapshots of "ordinary American homes" that don't show up on any government map. He used a series of digital census maps, combined with Russian spy imagery, to locate them. He then showed his own maps, products of Council funding, which are used to determine which locations are not included in the census maps. The Laboratory is now in a position to produce and document areas that are clearly residential but not yet included in the census's "Tiger" file.

Ms. Austin opened the floor for questions.

Ms. Austin asked who the potential users of the results of this project will be?

Mr. Wildgen answered that executives of any parish inside the study area would benefit.

Ms. Austin asked if there are any plans to market the information to other government entities?

He answered that there is an up and running website that is displaying the current imagery. The website can be accessed by the general public. The College of Urban & Public Affairs will be used to contact parish executives.

Mr. Hagan asked if cities/parishes would be able to use the information to ask questions about census in order to increase population?

Mr. Wildgen answered that this was the whole idea behind the project.

Ms. Austin asked if UNO had received any notification from the Census that this information would be accepted?

Mr. Wildgen said that he had spoken to the Census and they think the information is credible and are anxious to see it.

Ms. Austin asked about the budget in the progress report. \$495,000 had been budgeted, but only \$295,000 had been spent. No indication of surplus or explanation of extra money.

Mr. Wildgen indicated that he was dependent on the UNO offices of Accounting and Purchasing. His director has promised a more itemized budget.

Ms. Austin asked for an update of the budget for this project.

Louisiana State University Medical Center at New Orleans

Project: Biometrics – Fingerprint ID

Dr. Richard Ferrans, LSU Health Sciences Center, introduced himself.

The presentation began with a demonstration of the fingerprint ID system being installed throughout LSUMCNO. Dr. Foranz went over the goals of the project. First, to accurately identify patients using Biometrics. Second, to attempt to increase revenue by correctly identifying those patients eligible for Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance. Third, to accurately identify providers to ensure security of health data online. Fourth, to track patients in hospital using bar code devices. For those personnel who wear gloves, fingerprint ID will be replaced by voice technology and face recognition. All of these technologies plug into the same standard.

Dr. Ferrans said that incorporating Biometrics into the Health Sciences Center turned out to be a very complicated task. The technology is new, it had to be scalable, it had to meet certain performance requirements, and had to have a dual level of security. These requirements were technical challenges in the implementation process.

Dr. Ferrans identified 2 subprojects under Biometrics. First, Biometric registration of patients; Second, Biometric security. The registration is more straightforward and the security is more complicated because it has to fit into NT security, and NT2000 security. Also, security had to achieve dual security functionality, meaning secure access to all data from more than 1 location. LSUMCNO is working with their vendor, Integrated Visions, to solve these technical challenges. LSUMCNO is prepared to do a Biometric security pilot project in November.

Dr. Ferrans indicated that the changes in the registration process will be a source of savings. Currently registration is done through Shared Medical Systems. There are 3 options. First, to continue using SMS and integrate the new technology into it. Second, to write a front end registration system that will require LSUMC to allocate resources to do development. Third, there currently is software being developed that will be based on a database independent platform that could be used. Dr. Ferrans then demonstrated the current registration system. He said that registration affects billing tremendously, and therefore requires a lot of resources, and right now the resource priority at LSUMCNO is Y2K.

Dr. Ferrans showed a demonstration of the barcoding hardware to track patients.

Six months from now, Dr. Ferrans projects: completion of the pilot program on security, begin broader rollout of biometric security, clear direction with regards to registration, and beta testing of the barcoding system.

The floor was opened for questions.

Mr. Hagan asked if there is an alternative in mind for those patients who cannot or will not be fingerprinted?

Dr. Ferrans said they would use either face recognition or voice technology.

Mr. Beyer asked is the vendor was doing all the work on the Biometrics project (programming)?

Dr. Ferrans indicated that the Medical Center is involved heavily in the design, but are not actually writing any code.

Ms. Austin asked if they were going to meet the time frame?

Dr. Ferrans said they would be in a better position to answer that question in 6 months.

Ms. Austin asked what LSUMCNO plans to do if a patient refuses to comply with the Biometrics?

Dr. Ferrans said that the Medical Center will not deny treatment. He said that he is not a policy maker, but could foresee more requirements on patients who refuse Biometrics.

Ms. Austin added that LSUMCNO must educate the client base on the purpose of this system...that it is not a means of tracking them, but a means of providing them with better health care.

With no further questions, Dr. Ferrans presentation was complete.

Other Business

Balance of the Fund – Carrying over \$3M from last year. \$5M was appropriated to the Fund in HB1 of the Session, and an additional \$3M was appropriated from the tobacco settlement.

Ms. Austin set proposal deadline of December 3rd 1999. The next meeting was set for January 19th 2000.

With no further business for the Council to discuss, Ms. Austin called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made and seconded. Without objection the motion to adjourn carried.